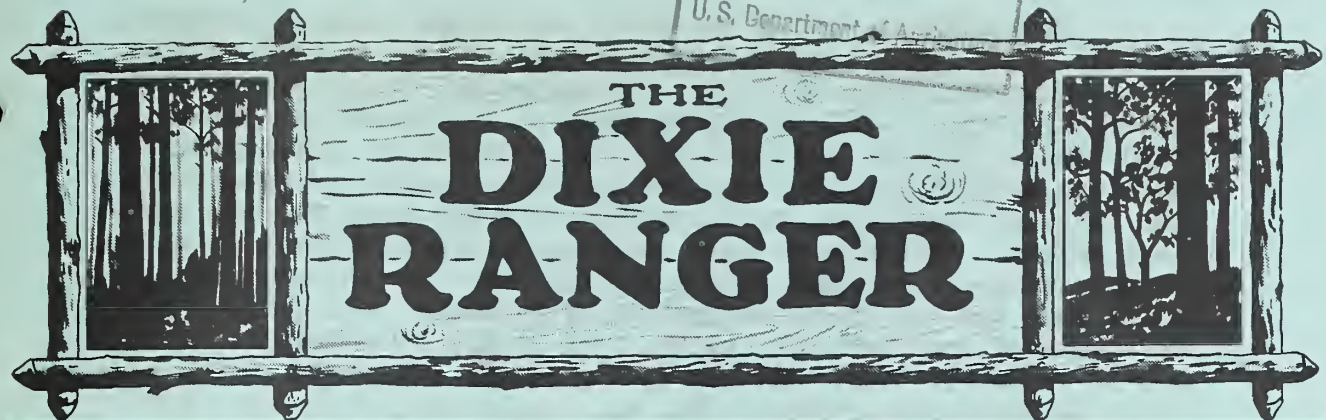


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UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE SOUTHERN REGION

VOLUME 6

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NUMBER 10

SHALL WE STAND STILL OR GO FORWARD

This is October, the month in which a week is set aside by Presidential proclamation to focus the attention of America on its annual fire bill; to the need for more care in our handling of fire and to launch out upon a renewed and re-invigorated prevention program; a program that will secure results, and save thousands of lives and millions of dollars. To all fire control officers whether city, urban or forest, the President has handed a challenge. We have received the same challenge annually for many years, and since we have had, over a period of five years, a yearly average of 2224 fires, and this year to date a total of 1967 with three months more to go, we cannot boast that we (R-8) accepted the challenge.

What's wrong with us? Are we becoming imbued with the idea that we don't need to do better? Are we too busy building fire towers and establishing game refuges to stop and study our progress or lack of progress? Do we feel smug and secure so long as things don't get worse, or are we doing our best? Are we trying to prevent fires by the same methods the early forest officers tried, or are we daring to launch out with a fresh idea or a new program? What is the answer?

An analysis of what has happened on one of the older national forests in the Region, one that has been under protection for 25 years, indicates that approximately 90 percent of the fires are being started by persons born since the forest was established. These people have been acquainted with national forest property lines and the aims and objectives of the Service ever since they were old enough to understand. Is this fact an indictment of our past educational effort or is it an indictment of our present day attitude?

The answer is one or the other, we cannot escape that realization. What logical reasoning can we apply - can we look forward to the same conditions 25 years from now on all of our present day national forests? Will Johnny B. Quick on the Standstill Forest find himself tangled in briars on a fire started by incendiaries? Will the natives still be awakened by the baying of old "Gogetum", the district bloodhound, as he sniffs along the trail of some careless smoker? Will fire posters still be tacked to trees warning the camper not to be careless with his fire? Will the debris burner still burn his new ground regardless of weather? Will sparks still be exhausted from railroad engines upon highly inflammable national forest material? Will children living within a national forest continue to play with matches? Will the logger still have but little respect for his workshop and be careless with fire? Will school children waiting for busses build warming fires and leave them burning? They will, unless we make a planned and determined effort to get public opinion actively in back of us.

Think what could be accomplished if we enlisted influential individuals in each ranger district to form forest committees designed for the primary purpose of preventing forest fires. Most Americans have something inside of them that makes them want to do something to help their country. This sentiment is a great force available to the Forest Service and a practical effort should be made to give direction to it. The patriotic attitude of the average citizen and his love for the outdoors constitutes a strong appeal that would serve as an entering wedge for a Forest Service educational campaign. These committees could serve as missionaries to spread Forest Service gospel. They could and would gladly sponsor forest fire educational projects, prevention contests, and take a lead in disseminating fire prevention information. They would also play a strong part in law enforcement, especially in the building of public sentiment against the woods burner. Is it worth a trial?

--- R. M. Conarro  
Regional Office

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#### SLASH PINE FESTIVAL

The annual Slash Pine Festival has been announced by the Herty Forest Institute for the week of November 11 to 16, at Waycross, Ga. On the climax day the Herty Memorial Program, in honor of the founder, Dr. Chas. H. Herty, will include the dedication of the Herty Forest and the breaking of ground for the new Herty Forest Institute building. The public is invited throughout the week.



## ALABAMA LAND IS PRODUCTIVE

One forty-acre block of the area covered by the Fred A. Mills sale in West Alabama was in cultivation until about 1900, the timber averaging from thirty-eight to forty years. We cut a total of 2,998 logs with a gross volume of 149,540 board feet, with a net volume of 143,390 board feet. A ten percent cruise of the area indicates that we have a residual stand of 260,400 board feet. The total value of the timber cut from this tract was \$716.70, with a residual value of \$1,302.00, or a total value of \$2,018.70. This represents an average annual return of the past forty years of \$1.26 per acre, starting from scratch.

--- Cecil E. Clapp  
Alabama

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## SAND PINE SAWDUST

The Ocala Big Scrub is also the Ocala Big Rub to those of us responsible for meeting the objectives of the Sand Pine Working Circle management plan. Since 1908, when the area within this working circle was proclaimed a national forest, the pure sand pine stands on 205,000 acres of Lakewood fine sand in the center of the Ocala have felt no axe, no saw.

Until the advent of the Florida pulp mills, there was little effort made to sell sand pine. Pulp mills used pulpwood, and the lowly Ocala species seemed made to order. In 1938, a management plan was prepared, providing for an annual cut of 20,000 cords of pulpwood. Two years passed, and still no cutting. Two years of hard promotion work, of discouraging attempts to overcome many obstacles and move the material. The cards seemed stacked - relative inaccessibility to pulp mills, extremely tough operating conditions, mechanical and chemical processing uncertainties, road and stream channel problems. But we still tugged at the veil covering the reaction of these dense, even-aged stands to cutting, tried to lift the lid without the help of a pulp mill.

Mid-September, 1940, a strange activity ruffled the calm of a 50-year old mature sand pine stand in the extreme southern end of the Big Scrub. The axes and saws were there at last, and a portable mill was eating up small, knotty sand pine sawlogs. Ranger J. W. Cooper has been plugging away for two years in an effort to "sell" the lowly sand pine. So now it appears that his two-year old "promotion" tree, beginning to look as barren as its predecessors has finally borne fruit. Whether the fruit proves to be a green persimmon or a ripe plum, sand pine is being cut.

Already this unusual species seems less obdurate, more salable. An Opopka lumberman of energy and imagination bid in a class B trial sale under Cooper's patient prodding. Specialized new uses, as for interior paneling, calling for market explorations and good merchandising, may make the venture successful. An additional 400 M has been advertised, to provide a thorough test if early results are promising. Bonanza or bust, we will get at least a peek under the silvicultural lid.

--- K. R. Mayer  
Florida

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### THE SUPERVISORS' CONFERENCE

As the Dixie Ranger goes to press, the Regional Office has taken on the appearance of "old home week", with the supervisors in for the conference called by Mr. Kircher for October 9-12.

All the supervisors are in attendance with the exception of Mr. Hadley from the Caribbean and Mr. Bosworth of the Pisgah, who has been bested in a bout with appendicitis. Mr. Squires represented him, and tells us that Mr. Bosworth, who was very much missed, is improving and will soon be up and about.

Every one was delighted that Mr. Clapp could be present at this conference, and add to its value by discussing the forestry program and contributing his ideas as to how the southern forestry will fit into the complete program. He was accompanied by Mr. Hammett, whom we were delighted to welcome on his first visit to the Regional Office. Messrs. Fitzwater and Peirce from the Division of State and Private and Mr. Thompson from the Division of Personnel, were other Washington Office officials honoring us with their presence. Messrs. Curry, Demmon, McGinnis and Bickford attended from the Southern Station, and Dr. Nelson represented the Appalachian Station.

Activities outside the national forest administration were given a big place on the program. Various activities were discussed and Mr. Sears summarized the Supervisors' role in cooperative work with State Forestry Departments and other state officials. Timber, recreation, wildlife, fire and erosion control and all phases of Forest Service work came up for discussion.

The program outlined was so extensive that several evening sessions were devoted to study and discussion. The boys were very much in earnest about the business in hand, as they passed up the Supervisor's party which heretofore has been a feature of the annual conference.



The interest and enthusiasm evidenced indicate that this has been a worthwhile meeting. This man-to-man discussion and interchange of ideas and opinions undoubtedly will be helpful in the big job ahead.

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#### SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. C. K. Korstian, dean of the Duke School of Forestry, Durham, N. C., has announced the fortieth annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters to be held in the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., December 19-21, 1940.

The opening session will have as its theme Forty Years of Forestry. Other topics listed for discussion are Forest conservation through information and education, Forestry and National Defense; Forest cooperatives, the use of parachutes in fire fighting, and community forests.

The final session, on Saturday morning, will be devoted to Regulated Forest Management in the United States. Authoritative speakers, representing federal, state and private agencies, will present their viewpoints on this subject.

On Friday morning, will be held the regular annual session devoted to Society affairs. This session will be open to members only. Non-members of the Society who are interested or working in the general field of conservation are cordially invited to attend all other sessions.

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#### FOREST SERVICE ENGINEERING

The following editorial, under the caption "Small Structures" appeared in the Engineering News-Record of September 12, 1940, and gives recognition to the work of Forest Service engineers and to the Service in raising the standards for these structures:

"Although such monumental works as Boulder Dam and the Panama Canal emphasize the debt that the profession owes engineers in the federal service, they do not begin to suggest how widespread is the influence of the engineering work of these public servants. Particularly is this true of the men in bureaus that build relatively small structures. The United States

Forest Service and the National Park Service are two of these bureaus. In the matter of recognition the Park Service fares somewhat better than the Forest Service by virtue of frequent spectacular bridge or tunnel jobs in the high mountain parks. But the Forest Service's achievements are quite as significant. During the past decade it has been particularly active in small dam building, a field where sound engineering principles are too often conspicuous by their absence. In adhering to as high standards for small dams as for large ones the Forest Service is following a practice that deserves wide emulation. And the profession could justifiably pay tribute to it as an important force in raising standards for small structures."

- - - Rezin E. Pidgeon  
Regional Office

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#### PREVENTIVE FIRE SUPPRESSION?

Taint so! Taint so! Them younguns who now are parading round here in them thar forest uniforms telling us ole timers that fire prevention can be bought, had better start digging into them thar old forest records. They will find I betcha that many old time forest officers had the same idee, and in a sly way did just that by putting sum big shot on the payroll to have him keep them thar fires out.

Let's see, over thar in that Dutch Creek valley where some member of a certain family was put on ever yere - what happened? No fires while he was on, but while he was loafing - did the fires burn? Yessiree. They shore did. Then over thar in Coker Creek nother feller was trying the same thing with nigh the same answer, bout burned up the country. Oh Yeh! They tried it over thar in Schuler Creek. Boy Oh Boy! That was sumpen. When the boys caught on to what was going on, they bout run that ranger ragged wanting jobs like the one the big shot had, and, say what do you think? When they didn't get em -- all sumpen broke loose. Fire was everywhere. Say, you know what, youngun, when a man begins paying a person for something he is supposed to give for nothin, then he just naturally spoils him. We all like to ride even if it is on one of them thar gravy trains. Now younguns, go back to your chores. Remember the old cow wont give nary a bit of milk unless a human or a calf uses a bit of effort - just the same with fire prevention. How much effort have them thar green pants boys used during all of this FUSS PERIOD?

- - - Chigger Pete's Grandpappy



### PISGAH PRAISED BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Supervisor Bosworth and his staff worked hard last year to regulate fishing streams on the Pisgah so that good fishing would be available throughout the tourist season. The following letter to Mr. Bosworth from C. M. Douglas of the Brevard Chamber of Commerce indicates that the efforts of the Pisgah were appreciated.

"This community is indebted to the Forest Service for the excellent fishing season which closed in the Pisgah Game Preserve last month, and thanks for your assistance is the purpose of this letter.

"Schedule of dates, and arrangement of opening of different streams on widely separated days has been a great drawing card for our tourist business during the season just now closing.

"The Brevard Chamber of Commerce would like to make request at this early time for the 1941 season - respectfully asking that similar schedule of dates, and similar printed material be used in 1941.

"We have had people come here for as many as three periods, in order to take advantage of the fine trout fishing in Pisgah Game Preserve; due, we feel, to the fact that streams were not over-fished in a given period.

"Added to the fact that we have always had fine cooperation from the entire Forest Service personnel, we have had many compliments from visitors this summer about the way the fishing schedules were arranged, and especially for the fine treatment accorded by the Forest Service, and all cooperating agencies.

"Again thanking you and your assistants for interest in our community activities, we are,".

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### TEXAS TIMBER SALE

The Southern Pine Lumber Company was the successful bidder on a recent shortleaf-loblolly pine timber sale on the unallocated Mt. Olive Compartment within the Davy Crockett.

The high bid in this instance was \$10.27 per M. board feet. The compartment includes 3,500 M. board feet of marked shortleaf and loblolly pine timber in designated areas, while some 700 M. board feet of unmarked pine timber in scattered

stands is available to the purchaser in optional areas at the same stumpage rate. Hence, the total expected return will amount to \$35,945, with a possible additional return of \$7,189 to make a total consideration of \$43,134.

A review of the description of the stand indicates that 73 percent of the volume is contained in trees in the 16-inch class and up to 34 inches. The marked timber is located on 3153 acres, or an estimated average net cut per acre of 1132 board feet.

This sale will be of considerable assistance in accomplishing the annual objective of 6,000 M. board feet to be cut or a value of \$50,000 for the district during fiscal year 1941.

Incidentally, this sale established a new record price for pine timber in Texas. A previous sale on the Sam Houston within the Grant Compartment during the summer of 1939 involved a stumpage price of \$9.87 per M. board feet, which included 25 cents per M. for stand area betterment work.

--- Gilbert H. Stradt,  
Texas

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#### FLAG ETIQUETTE

The official flag of the United States may be displayed only between the hours of sunrise and sunset.

It is flown at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day in honor of the Nation's dead, and is then raised to the top of the staff in honor of the living nation.

It is never displayed with the union down except as a signal of distress.

It should always be carried aloft and free, never flat or horizontally.

It should never be used in any form of advertising.

It should never be used as drapery. Bunting of red, white, and blue may be used for that purpose.

It should not be embroidered upon cushions or handkerchiefs nor printed on paper napkins or boxes.

It should not be displayed on a float in a parade except from a staff.

It is never dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, state flags, and organization or institutional flags render this honor.

No other flag or pennant should be placed above it, or placed to its right if on the same level.

(From "Daily Contact" R-9)

## THE FAMILY ALBUM

### "BLACK TOP WOODY"

Did you know we are going in for black-topping roads in the Region? So far, a stretch of road on the Chattahoochee, a little one on the Nantahala and quite a stretch on the Black Warrior. Taking a leading part in this is Associate Civil Engineer P. W. Warren, better known as "Woody". Still our regional chief tester of materials and factors entering into our engineering works, Woody has become deeply engrossed in black-topping. As to miles completed to date, Woody can give you the score.

Speaking of scores, no one of us is better posted on the baseball situation than Woody, who is an ardent fan. Every summer he carries the Southern League schedule posted in the crown of his straw kelly so he can tell you on the instant where and when the Crackers or your home team plays whom. He doffs his hat and gloatingly gives you the information.

Woody excels as a purveyor of information not necessarily confined to baseball or forest engineering. He is particularly versed on Arkansas where he spent the depression on the Ozark. I recall the time the other summer when he was out there touring around the forest with Rudolpho del Valle. Rudy is our forest engineer on the Caribbean and he showed a lively interest in everything in spite of the heat. Rudy made copious notes, apparently building up a voluminous log of his trip through the South. Perspiring freely, Woody indefatigably answered (or parried) all the questions Rudy would pop.

Only once was Woody stumped. We were driving into Little Rock. Coming in, Woody had satisfactorily accounted for the various commercial buildings, bridges, institutions, railroads, vehicles, billboards and pretty girls. As we turned toward the railway station, Rudy demanded "Well, where is it?" "Where is what?" countered Woody. "Where is the Little rock?"

--- Chigger Pete

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Region 8 personnel extends sincerest sympathy to Mr. P. J. Paxton, whose mother, Mrs. T. R. Paxton of Princeton, Indiana, died on October 3.



SOME FACTS REGARDING PRUNING OF SECOND GROWTH  
PINE STANDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Two years ago, when the pruning of second growth loblolly and shortleaf pine stands was first discussed in the South Carolina office, answers to the following questions were highly variant:

"How much will the job cost? How many trees per acre in our typical stands require pruning? What average production can be expected with CCC labor?"

We set up local rules, which served until regional instructions were circulated, and went to work in Piedmont stands which ranged in average ages from twenty to fifty years. Priority was given to the treatment of residual stands on sale areas of recent cutting.

Answers to the above questions, now at hand, must be accepted as merely indicative, for therein are included costs of training and the losses in production attendant to the initiation of a new job. As proven by work in stands recently treated, we are now materially cutting the average costs listed below.

Based on approximately 640 acres, in which 160 trees were treated per acre, the average per acre cost was as follows:

Enrollee labor	\$4.36
Supervision	.48
Transportation	.25
Supplies	.11
Total	<u>\$5.20</u>

Enrollee labor, credited at \$1.50 per day, treated 55 trees per man-day. Production is improving, through schooling enrollees to ignore low-quality, wolfish trees. Supervision, covered by junior foresters paid from CCC funds, handled 35 enrollees per day. Transportation was figured at 4¢ per mile for 1½ T. stake body trucks, and 3¢ per mile for 1/2 T. pickups. Supplies covered the direct cost of saws, depreciated over a normal life.

On a basis of \$5.20 per acre, in which 160 trees were treated, it will be seen that the average cost expended per tree becomes 3¼¢.

The Regional Forester's instructions (dated February 14, 1939) point out that there is nothing to be gained by pruning trees which will be cut within ten years. Further, these instructions state that all trees with desired form and vigor are potential "crop trees" and should be pruned. To satisfy a curiosity as to the ratio of sizes being treated under these

instructions, plots were sampled behind crews at intervals as the work progressed. Percentages by 1" d. b. h. classes over the above area are approximately as follows:

<u>D. B. H.</u> <u>Class</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>of Total</u>
3" .....	9
4" .....	18
5" .....	26
6" .....	24
7" .....	13
8" .....	5
9" .....	2
10" .....	2
11" .....	
and over .....	<u>1</u>
	100

The 16-inch, curved blade pole pruning saw, cutting on the downward stroke, has been found to satisfactorily accomplish the job. Our crews are now equipped with such saws mounted on six-foot and twelve-foot poles, in ratios of 3 to 2 or 4 to 2, in favor of the longer poles. Hand saws were tried and discarded on the grounds that they did not afford effective reach. Hardwood clubs to beat off dead limbs, tried at the outset, proved ineffective, as well as dangerous.

Pruning was carried to a height of approximately seventeen feet per tree, providing such a maximum would not demand the removal of over one-third of the living crown. Thrifty stands treated to date have, in general, been characterized by long poles permitting maximum working heights. In such stands the removal of dead limbs and stubs constituted the major job.

Errors were made at the outset of the work. A general tendency to "polish", at the expense of production, had to be broken. Cutting was made too deeply into basal swells, work was expended on deformed trees which afforded no hope of producing more than one sawlog, and trees of sawtimber size were occasionally worked. The application of the unwritten marking rule "when in doubt, leave" proved effective.

The pruning of stands adjacent to (but not on) eroding lands has provided material for mulching and for brush dams.

A recent inspection of an area treated eighteen months ago indicates bark will have covered all but the largest basal scars in another year.

--- Norman R. Hawley  
South Carolina

## FLOOD DAMAGE IN DANIEL BOONE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Aquatic Biologist Ancil D. Holloway recently sent in a report of the havoc and destruction caused in the Daniel Boone Wildlife Management Area by the extremely high waters of August 13 and August 30.

The stream bed of Wilson Creek, 30 to 50 feet in width before the flood, is now 150 feet wide in narrow places and up to 1000 feet wide between Mortimer and the narrow gorge above Edgemont. In some places banks have been cut back from 3 to 7 times wider than the former channel. At the head of the creek is a slide as large as a city block and the stream channel is 50 to 60 feet wide cut into bed rock. Before the flood one could step across the stream, at many points. At many places the channel is scoured out clean of all living vegetation.

The Lost Cove Creek channel was widened from about 18 feet to 60 or 80 feet and no shade is left, as soil and vegetation are completely washed away.

According to Mr. Holloway the damage along Rock House and Harpers Creeks was similar to that along Lost Cove Creek. On none of these creeks except in the extreme heads of the tributaries are any bottom fauna found - here it is very sparse. Examination made on North Harper Creek before the flood showed hundreds of small minnows and from 5 to 11 trout in every pool examined. An examination since the flood of two miles on North Harpers Creek, South Harpers Creek and the main stream below the forks revealed less than a dozen minnows and no trout at all were found. Except for two or three crayfish and a few snails no form of bottom fauna was found.

Mr. Holloway reports that temperature taken on August 27, 28, and 29, when the streams were still high, indicated that water temperatures, except in the extreme heads of the streams, will be too high to carry trout until the shade is replenished along the streams, which will probably take one to two years. He recommends that no fish planting be done this fall and that future plantings be made whenever the food and temperature recovers sufficiently to support trout.

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## PERSONNEL CHANGES

Purvy L. Harris has been probationally appointed as Tractor Mechanic in the Ouachita Shop.

Resignation has been accepted from Mrs. Delilah J. Arnold, Telephone Operator on the Bayou Ranger District of the Ozark.



Miss Elizabeth N. Nunn, Jr. Clerk-Stenographer on the Enoree District of the South Carolina, has been transferred to the Grandfather District on the Pisgah, where she continues to be engaged in acquisition activities.

FLASH! Miss Nunn has just submitted her resignation to be married.

Daniel W. Nichols, Clerk in the Finance Section of the Nantahala Supervisor's office, has been transferred to the Division of Fiscal Control in the Regional Office.

Probational appointment has been effected for Hemel Hatfield as Watchman at the Ashe Nursery on the Mississippi.

Charles W. Coffin, Assistant Agricultural Aid on the Leesville District of the Kisatchie, has been transferred to the Leaf River District on the Mississippi, where he will continue to be engaged in timber stand improvement, pine pruning, planting and other cultural work.

Ernest B. King has resigned his position as Abstractor on the Cherokee in order to accept employment with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Minor Asst. to Technician Wilsie H. Helms has been transferred from the Mississippi State to the Alabama State and is stationed at Camp P-76, Vredenburgh.

Martin L. Knight has resigned his position as Jr. Clerk-Stenographer in the Finance Section of the Mississippi Supervisor's Office in order to accept an appointment with the Navy Department at Pensacola.

The following intra-unit changes have been effected:

Pisgah: Howard M. Klutz, Abstractor, and Mrs. Lina Fletcher Barnhardt, Jr. Clerk-Stenographer, from the Grandfather Ranger District to the Uharie Purchase Unit; Abstractor James J. Alexander from the Supervisor's Office to the Uharie.

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#### THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher made a talk on October 2 at the dedication of the bridge across the South Fork Ouachita River on Highway No. 270, in Arkansas.

M. E. Brashears, former Texas District Forester, has been appointed Forester and Director of the Division of Forestry, Louisiana Department of Conservation.

The Dixie Ranger is glad to report that Miss Sarah J. Thurman of the Division of Timber Management is recuperating from a recent operation.

Mr. Kircher has received a letter from Professor Heiber of Syracuse University expressing appreciation for the courtesies and attention shown his group of 45 forestry students on the occasion of their visit last month to the Pisgah and Osceola National Forests and the Regional Office.

Associate Forester Stabler is accompanying Mr. Clapp and Mr. Hammatt, who were here for the Supervisors' conference, on a tour of part of the Region. They will visit the Southern Experiment Station, and the Alabama, Mississippi, Kisatchie, Arkansas and Texas National Forests before going to Albuquerque.

Regional Fiscal Agent Marshall is on detail to Washington working with a group from other Regions and the Washington office on revision of the accounting system.

The large portrait of Regional Forester Kircher, recently done by Harry Rossoll, now presides over the reading room of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta. It is one of the works of Atlanta artists which are currently on exhibit at the library.

The Dixie Ranger really should have used a red cover this month to indicate the color of our face. In the September issue we listed R. C. Slye as a visitor from R-9. Mr. Slye actually is a member of our family, having been assigned to the Supervisor's office in Jackson, Mississippi since April of last year. We are mortified - but "we told it to you as it was told to us." Anyway,

Mr. Slye, don't be so shy -  
Visit I&E when you're passing by.

Recent Office visitors were:

Washington Office: H. R. Jones  
Fred Morrell  
L. S. Bean  
T. L. Smith, Department of Agriculture

Other visitors were:

A. E. Steanson, BAE, Athens, Ga.  
R. D. Huff, Forest Management Asst. Raleigh  
J. D. Strange, Assistant Forester, Quitman, Miss.  
Supervisor Gerrard - Cherokee National Forest  
C. A. Gillett, Seaboard Airline Railway  
Supervisor Hughes, Mississippi National Forests  
Major J. E. Soule, War Department, Atlanta, Ga.  
Frank Heyward, Southern Pulpwood Conservation Assn.  
Atlanta, Ga.  
J. T. Marshall, Public Roads Administration, Atlanta  
W. B. Hampton, Soil Conservation Service, Atlanta  
C. N. Elliott, Ga. Department of Natural Resources  
G. A. Pearson, Southwestern Experiment Station.

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## THE POWER OF EXAMPLE

"It suddenly came to me with some force that CCC boys, whom we are inclined to take as a matter of course, regard Forest Officers as superior beings. Their feeling is not entirely "hero worship", although there is an element of that. There is the respect commanded by a superior position, plus an admiration for individuals filling positions that to them have glamour. In our work-a-day attitude most of us fail to perceive this, or else we accept it with tolerant amusement. This attitude is stronger in some camps and in some individuals than in others, but it is something real and something that should be recognized. Too, it can be of vital importance in assisting us to accomplish our aims.

"At present I am thinking more from the standpoint of safety than from any other. The record reveals that there are fewer accidents in the CCC ranks than in those of the administrative force. This indicates two things: (1) that we have not paid the same attention to safety for ourselves that we have required of the CCC organization; (2) that we have unwittingly been guilty of setting bad examples for CCC boys. Four Forests have recognized this and have subsequently established an excellent safety record among the administrative force. This was achieved by adopting the CCC Safety Code. My understanding is that this was done without any sacrifice, either in time or in work. Surely, if this is possible on four Forests where the idea has been given thorough trial, it must likewise be possible on other Forests. I may be mistaken, but I firmly believe that the adoption of the CCC Safety Code by the administrative force will not only result in reduction of painful and serious accidents to members of the regular organization but will also tend, through example, to help better CCC safety records.

"It is recognized that the adoption of the CCC Safety Code for regular use cannot but cause some question. We all know that for many years we never thought of safety as such. We know, too, that in many phases of the job we take risks and feel that these are inherent in the work itself. To some extent, this is true. However, looking back on our experiences we can all recall taking risks that were not justified. Many times we have done so merely for the thrill or because we thought it would save time or energy. We are beginning to recognize, however, that some of those things that we do without thinking and some that we do with thinking are neither in the interests of the job, of our families, nor of ourselves. Certainly we are not meeting our obligation towards CCC enrollees nor cooperating with the Superintendents and foremen who are trying to inculcate thoughts of safety in the minds of these boys. They are impressionable and because of their regard for Forest Officers, we can do much by setting a fine example. We are under obligation, also, to safeguard our ERA workers and emergency fire-fighters, and by example, we can do a great deal toward accomplishing this.

In view of all this, I am asking every Forest Officer to familiarize himself with and to follow just as closely as he reasonably can the instructions in the CCC Safety Manual.

S. B. Show  
Regional Forester

(The foregoing letter addressed to personnel of Region 5 so impressed some of those in the Regional Office who read it that it was decided to reproduce it in the Dixie Ranger for the benefit of its readers.

The letter is thought provoking and contains some suggestions which each of us might well take to heart. Every Forest Service employee exemplifies the organization to all with whom he comes in contact, both enrollees and general public, and most of us probably do not appreciate how closely our observation of safety rules and courtesies of the road are scrutinized by others than our official associates.)



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